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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Stanley W. Driggs et al.  
Serial No. : 09/995,352  
Filing Date : November 27, 2001  
For : COMPOUND CLASSIFIER FOR  
PATTERN RECOGNITION  
APPLICATIONS  
Group Art Unit : 2621  
Attorney Docket No. : LM(F)5791  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 CFR \$1.97 and \$1.98, and in compliance with CFR \$1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, pending applications, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is enclosed. Applicant(s) make no admission that the enclosed documents are prior art to the present invention.
2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a corresponding U.S. Patent is enclosed or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth on an attached sheet, or a copy of an English-language search report is attached.

3. Pursuant to 37 CFR \$1.97(b) this Statement is being filed (one must be checked):

- (a) ☐ Within 3 months of the filing date or date of entry into the National Stage.
- (b) ☒ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
- (c) ☐ After the period set forth in 37 CFR \$1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

1) ☐ A certification is given below,

2) ☐ Enclosed is a check covering the fee (\$180.00) set forth in \$1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or

3) ☐ Charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

(d) ☐ After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. The required certification and fee is indicated below.

1) ☐ Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) \$180, or

2) ☐ Charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

4. Certification (if applicable):

- (a) ☐ The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

- (b) ☐ The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry no item of information contained in the Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.
5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, fees underpaid, or credit any overpayment with regard to this Statement to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.
6. Concise Explanation (if needed):
- (1) ☐ Below is a Concise Statement of Relevance of enclosed non-English language document(s).

#### DOCUMENTS

A. F. R. Rahman et al. "AN EVALUATION OF MULTI-EXPERT CONFIGURATIONS FOR THE RECOGNITION OF HANDWRITTEN NUMERALS", Pattern Recognition, Pergamon Press Inc., Elmsford, NY, Vol. 31, No. 9, September 1, 1998, pages 1255-1273.

Xiaofan Lin et al. "ADAPTIVE CONFIDENCE TRANSFORM BASED CLASSIFIER COMBINATION FOR CHINESE CHARACTER RECOGNITION", Pattern Recognition Letters, North-Holland Publ. Amsterdam, NL., Vol. 19, No. 10, August 1, 1998, pages 975-988.

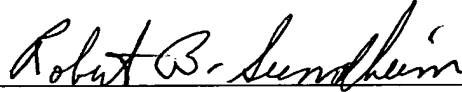
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David J. Miller et al. "ENSEMBLE CLASSIFICATION BY CRITIC-DRIVEN COMBINING" 1999 IEEE International Conference On Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing. Phoenix, AZ, March 15-19, 1999, IEEE (ICASSP), New York, NY; IEEE, US, Vol. 2, March 15, 1999, pages 1029-1032.

Lei Xu et al. "ASSOCIATIVE SWITCH FOR COMBINING MULTIPLE CLASSIFIERS", Proceedings of the International Joint Conference on Neural Networks; Seattle, July 8-12, 1991, International Joint Conference on Neural Networks, New York, IEEE, US, June 8, 1991, pages 43-48.

International Search Report PCT/US 02/29426.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert B. Sundheim". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Robert B. Sundheim

Reg. No. 20,127

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL,  
& TUMMINO L.L.P.

1111 Leader Building

526 Superior Avenue

Cleveland, OH 44114-1400

Phone: (216) 621-2234

Fax: (216) 621-4072







